

Documents on Diplomacy: Resources

Excerpts from the Monroe Doctrine



"... the American continents, by the free and independent condition which they have assumed and maintain, are henceforth not to be considered as subjects for future colonization by any European powers. . ."



"In the wars of the European powers in matters relating to themselves we have never taken any part, nor does it comport with our policy to do so."



"We owe it, therefore, to candor and to the amicable relations existing between the United States and those powers to declare that we should consider any attempt on their part to extend their system to any portion of this hemisphere as dangerous to our peace and safety."



"But with the Governments who have declared their independence...we could not view any interposition for the purpose of oppressing them, or controlling in any other manner their destiny, by any European power in any other light than as the manifestation of an unfriendly disposition toward the United States."